

MEMORANDUM

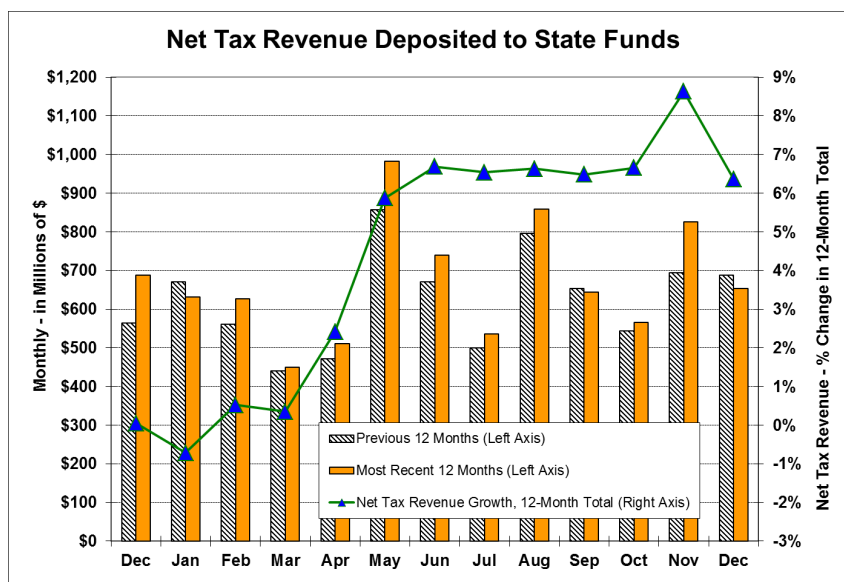
TO: Members of the Iowa Senate and
Members of the Iowa House of Representatives

FROM: Jeff Robinson

DATE: January 25, 2016

Twelve-Month Total Net Tax Receipts Through December 31, 2015

The attached spreadsheet presents net tax revenue deposited to State funds for the 12-month period ending December 2015 with comparisons to the previous 12 months. December 2014 to December 2015 one-month comparisons are also presented. The source of the information is the State accounting system, including non-General Fund accounts. All accounting transactions related to taxes remitted to the State were reviewed, along with the refunds issued against those taxes.



Overview of Current Situation

State of Iowa total tax revenue decreased 5.2% in December, although a portion of the decrease was due to deposit timing difference related to how the Thanksgiving holiday fell on the calendar in 2014 and 2015. Despite a \$0.10 per gallon fuel tax increase, December 2015 receipts were below December 2014 deposits, indicating that perhaps fuel tax was also impacted by a calendar or deposit issue. Total tax deposits for the most recent 12 months were 6.4% above the previous period, a growth percentage in line with the months of June through October.

Month of December 2015

December net tax receipts totaled \$652.9 million, a decrease of \$35.5 million (-5.2%) compared to December 2014. Corporate and individual income tax posted modest gains for the month of December, while the remaining taxes were generally negative. A large drop in sales/use tax revenue was due to calendar differences between the years. Fuel tax posted a 13.4% drop for the month despite a tax rate increase effective March, 2015.

Year-Over-Year Comparison – Net Tax Revenue

During the 12-month period ending December 2015, net revenue from all taxes deposited to State funds totaled \$8.026 billion, an increase of \$480.5 million (6.4%), compared to the prior 12 months. Major contributors to the year-over-year dollar and percentage changes include:

- Individual Income Tax (positive \$255.6 million, 7.8%) – At \$255.6 million, individual income tax accounts for 54.2% of all tax revenue growth over the past year.
- Corporate Income Tax (negative \$2.5 million, -0.6%) – Annual corporate income tax revenue growth turned negative for the first time since February 2015. Over the most recent six months, growth for this source is down \$44.9 million.
- Sales/Use Tax (positive \$48.6 million, 1.9%) – Gross tax receipts from the sale of vehicles (deposited to the Road Use Tax Fund) increased 8.2% over the last 12 months and sales/use tax deposited to the State General Fund increased 2.3%. Over those same 12 months, refunds of General Fund sales/use tax payments, including the payments to local school districts for school infrastructure, increased \$43.1 million.
- Bank Franchise Tax (positive \$8.9 million, 27.6%) – After a significant decline that began in March 2014, the annual growth in bank tax net revenue turned positive in April 2015. Over the most recent 12 months, tax deposits have increased while tax refunds have decreased.
- Fuel Tax (positive \$140.9 million, 30.9%) – According to Department of Revenue monthly fuel sales reports, over the most recent 12-month period, Iowa taxable gasoline/ethanol gallons sold increased 0.8% and taxable diesel sales decreased 1.1%. The combination of gasoline and diesel taxable fuel gallons increased 0.2% over the period. Due in large part to the Iowa gas tax increase (effective March 1, 2015), fuel tax net deposits increased \$141.9 million (40.7%) over the past nine months.
- Gambling Tax (positive \$14.2 million, 4.9%) – According to Racing and Gaming Commission statistics, eight Iowa casino/track locations recorded negative annual adjusted gross revenue (AGR) growth for the 12 months ending December 2015. A new casino opened near Jefferson in July 2015. The combined AGR change for the 19 facilities was positive 2.0% over the previous 12 months. Across all facilities, the AGR for the 12 months totaled \$1.424 billion, an amount that is 3.1% below the annual AGR peak (December 2012).
- Real Estate Transfer Tax (positive \$1.5 million, 8.1%)
- Cigarette and Tobacco Tax (positive \$4.7 million, 2.1%)

Tax Spotlight – Other Taxes

The “Other Tax” category includes the following net tax collections:

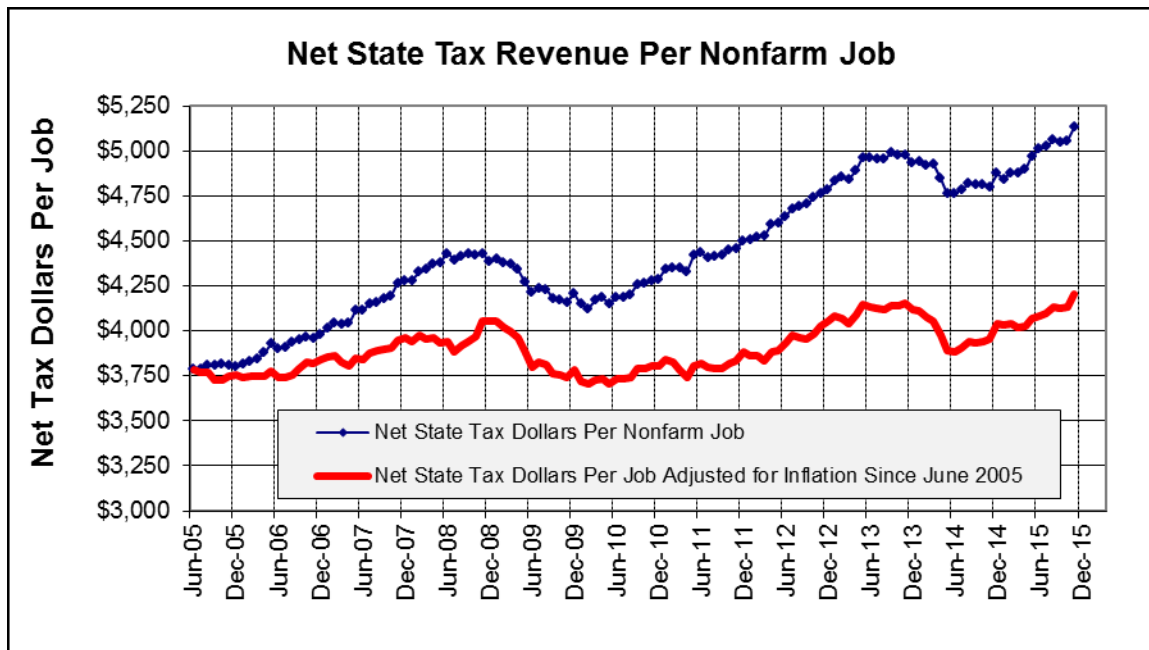
- Brucellosis Eradication Property Tax – This statewide property tax is administered under the authority of [Iowa Code section 165.18](#). The Secretary of Agriculture sets a property tax rate not to exceed \$0.3375 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation to cover expenses estimated to be paid through the Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Eradication Fund for the following fiscal year. For FY 2016, the property tax rate is \$0.0033 per \$1,000 of taxed valuation. Funds received

from the tax are credited to the Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Eradication Fund. The tax raised \$599,000 over the most recent 12-month period.

- **Drug Stamp Tax** – This tax is administered by the Department of Revenue under the authority of [Iowa Code chapter 453B](#). The tax is imposed on dealers of marijuana and other controlled substances. Rates range from \$5.00 per gram of marijuana to \$750 for each unprocessed marijuana plant. Funds received from the Drug Stamp Tax are deposited in the General Fund. The tax raised \$201,000 over the most recent 12-month period.
- **Utility Replacement Property Tax** – This statewide property tax is administered under the authority of [Iowa Code section 437A.18](#). The tax rate is established at \$0.03 per \$1,000 of taxable utility company property valuation in the State. Funds generated from this property tax are deposited in the General Fund. The tax raised \$392,000 over the most recent 12-month period. An additional amount of utility replacement tax is collected each year under the provisions of [Iowa Code section 437A.15\(3f\)](#). Annual taxes collected by the State under this provision total approximately \$1.2 million per year and have been deposited to the [Property Tax Relief Fund](#), the [Mental Health and Disability Services Redesign Fund](#), and the Department of Human Services Medical Assistance State General Fund appropriation.
- **Car Rental Tax** – This tax is administered by the Department of Revenue under the authority of [Iowa Code chapter 423C](#). The tax rate of 5.0% is imposed on the rental price of a vehicle. Funds received from the car rental tax are credited to the Statutory Allocations Fund. The tax raised \$3.5 million over the most recent 12-month period.
- **Tax Gap Program** – The Department of Revenue transfers tax revenue on a monthly basis to fund the tax collection activities of the Tax Gap Program. The Tax Gap Program is a Department initiative designed to improve tax compliance through utilization of technology. A total of \$12.6 million in tax revenue was credited to the Tax Gap Program over the most recent 12-month period.
- **Department of Revenue Operating Appropriation Transfers** – Each month, the Department of Revenue transfers tax revenue out of the State General Fund and deposits the money to the Department's operations account. The money is used in the operations budget to fund collections (FY 2015 = \$11.3 million) and streamlined sales tax activities (FY 2015 = \$0.2 million). Although the money is withdrawn as tax receipts, the Department does not redeposit the money as tax revenue, instead depositing the money as "intrastate transfers." During FY 2015, these transactions artificially reduced reported State tax receipts by a total of \$11.5 million.

Tax Revenue and Employment

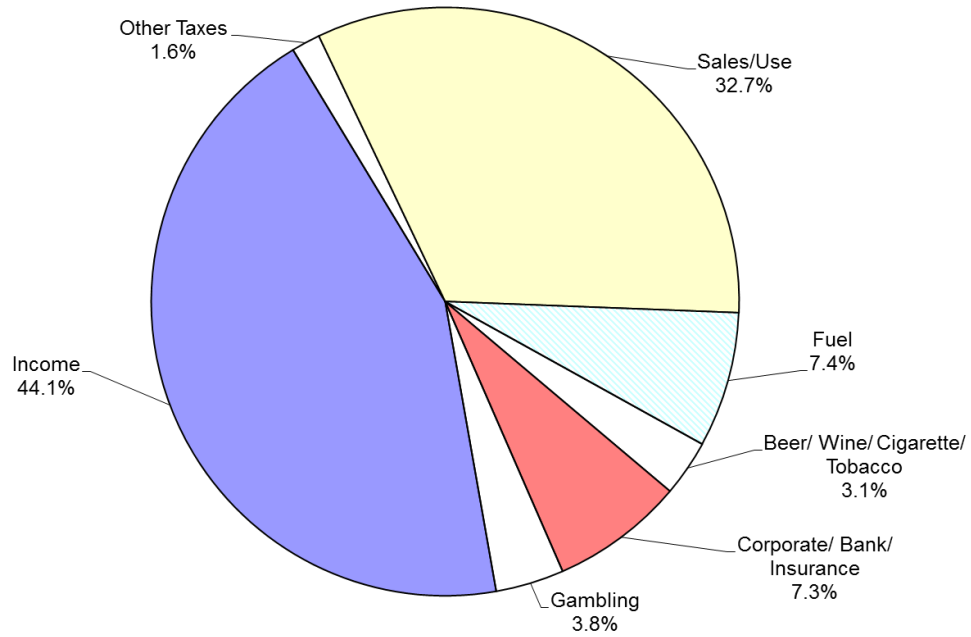
The average reading for Iowa nonfarm employment over the 12 months ending November 2015 is 1,570,400 and net State tax receipts over the same 12 months totaled \$8.061 billion, or \$5,133 per nonfarm job. This is \$1,348 higher than the per job average for the 12 months ending June 2005. The blue line on the following chart depicts the annual tax revenue collected by the State per job, calculated monthly. The red line subtracts the impact of inflation since June 2005 from the blue line. The red line indicates that inflation-adjusted tax revenue per job has increased \$422 since June 2005, and the remainder of the \$1,348 increase (\$926) represents the impact of inflation.



Net State Tax Revenue - Twelve Months Ending December 2015

Net Revenue = \$8.026 Billion

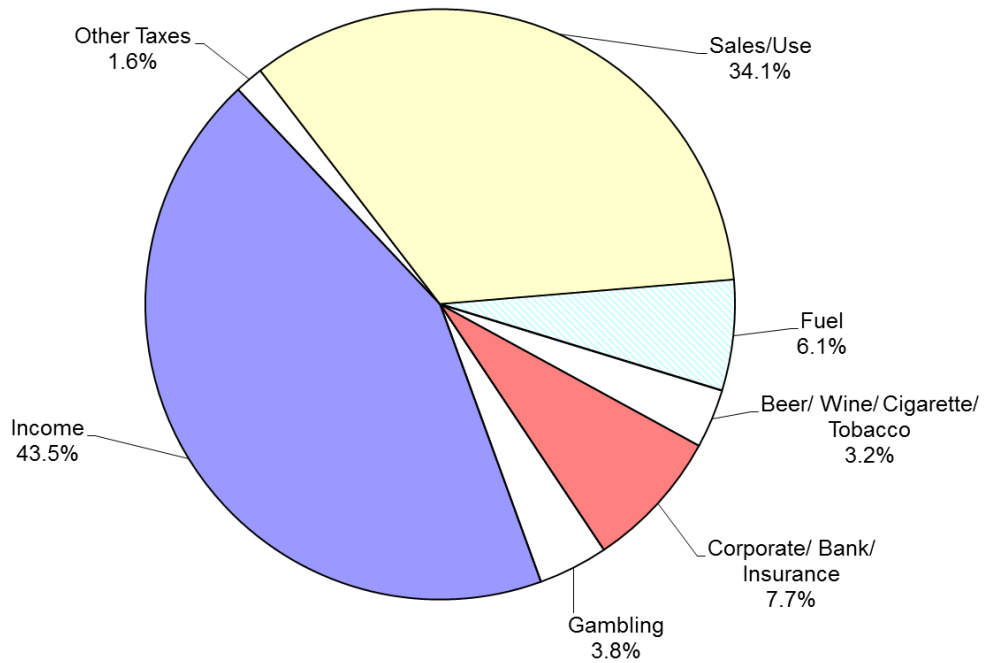
Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding



Net State Tax Revenue - Twelve Months Ending December 2014

Net Revenue = \$7.546 Billion

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding



Net Tax Revenue Deposited to State Funds - Cash Basis

Dollars in millions - columns and rows may not add due to rounding

Net Tax by Tax Type	Previous 12-Month Period Total	Most Recent 12-Month Period Total	12-Month \$ Change	12-Month % Change	Month of December 2014	Month of December 2015	December \$ Change	December % Change
Banking	\$ 32.3	\$ 41.2	\$ 8.9	27.6%	\$ 9.1	\$ 7.0	\$ - 2.1	-23.1%
Beer & Wine	21.9	22.3	0.4	1.8%	1.9	1.7	- 0.2	-10.5%
Cigarette & Tobacco	221.3	226.0	4.7	2.1%	24.1	19.5	- 4.6	-19.1%
Corporate Income	438.0	435.5	- 2.5	-0.6%	35.6	36.3	0.7	2.0%
Fuel	456.7	597.6	140.9	30.9%	50.1	43.4	- 6.7	-13.4%
Gambling	288.1	302.3	14.2	4.9%	25.2	27.8	2.6	10.3%
Individual Income	3,285.1	3,540.7	255.6	7.8%	325.5	333.5	8.0	2.5%
Inheritance	87.5	89.9	2.4	2.7%	8.4	8.3	- 0.1	-1.2%
Insurance	108.8	109.9	1.1	1.0%	0.4	0.2	- 0.2	-50.0%
Other Taxes	12.9	17.6	4.7	36.4%	2.6	2.4	- 0.2	-7.7%
Real Estate Transfer	18.5	20.0	1.5	8.1%	2.6	1.5	- 1.1	-42.3%
Sales/Use	2,574.4	2,623.0	48.6	1.9%	202.9	171.3	- 31.6	-15.6%
Total Net Taxes	\$ 7,545.5	\$ 8,026.0	\$ 480.5	6.4%	\$ 688.4	\$ 652.9	\$ - 35.5	-5.2%
Gross Tax & Refunds								
Gross Tax	\$ 8,996.9	\$ 9,503.0	\$ 506.1	5.6%	\$ 794.1	\$ 750.0	\$ - 44.1	-5.6%
Tax Refunds	\$ - 1,451.4	\$ - 1,477.0	\$ - 25.6	1.8%	\$ - 105.9	\$ - 96.9	\$ 9.0	-8.5%
Net Tax Receipts by Fund								
State General Fund (GF)	\$ 6,203.5	\$ 6,491.0	\$ 287.5	4.6%	\$ 562.3	\$ 533.2	\$ - 29.1	-5.2%
Road Use Tax Fund	\$ 803.6	\$ 972.1	\$ 168.5	21.0%	\$ 73.4	\$ 68.7	\$ - 4.7	-6.4%
Non-GF Gambling	\$ 286.5	\$ 300.6	\$ 14.1	4.9%	\$ 25.1	\$ 27.7	\$ 2.6	10.4%
Other State Funds	\$ 251.9	\$ 262.4	\$ 10.5	4.2%	\$ 27.4	\$ 23.4	\$ - 4.0	-14.6%
Local Option Taxes *	\$ 915.6	\$ 977.4	\$ 61.8	6.7%	\$ 74.7	\$ 85.6	\$ 10.9	14.6%

* Sales, income surtax, hotel/motel, and flood mitigation. Distributed to local governments - not included in numbers above.

Numbers are rounded to the nearest \$0.1 million. Percentages are calculated after rounding.

A percentage change displayed as "--" represents instances where the base year net revenue amount was zero or negative so no meaningful percentage change can be calculated.

Tax Categories Used in Table

Franchise (Bank) Tax: The franchise tax paid by banks is deposited in the State General Fund. Credit unions are taxed under a different system than banks, but the credit union tax is included in this line also. Of the total deposited, the bank tax provides approximately 98.0% of the revenue and the credit union tax 2.0%.

Beer & Liquor Tax: Taxes on beer, liquor, and wine are deposited in the State General Fund, the Liquor Control Fund, and a small amount is deposited in an Iowa Economic Development Authority Fund for wine promotion.

Cigarette & Tobacco Tax: Prior to July 1, 2011, all cigarette and tobacco product tax revenue was deposited in the State General Fund. Since FY 2012, the first \$106.0 million of revenue from cigarette and tobacco taxes has been deposited in the Health Care Trust Fund and the remainder is deposited in the State General Fund. Beginning in FY 2014, all cigarette and tobacco tax revenue is deposited in the Health Care Trust Fund.

Corporate Income Tax: All corporate income tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax: All motor vehicle fuel tax is deposited in one of two road use funds, with the exception of tax revenue from the sale of aviation and marine fuels.

Gambling Tax: Gambling tax is deposited in several State funds. Beginning with FY 2014, the State no longer deposits gambling tax revenue to the State General Fund. Funds receiving deposits of gambling tax revenue over the last 24 months include the Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund, the County Endowment Fund, the Vision Iowa Fund, the Revenue Bond Debt and Subsidy Holdback Funds, and the Iowa Skilled Worker and Job Creation Fund.

Individual Income Tax: Most individual income tax revenue is deposited in the State General Fund. A total of \$6.0 million per year (\$5.75 million in FY 2015) is deposited in the Workforce Development Fund. An annual \$2.6 million diversion to the Child Daycare Fund ended in FY 2009. In addition, several economic development programs are financed by individual income tax withholding. In those instances, the employer does not remit the tax withheld from employees and it is never deposited in a State fund. That revenue is not included here.

Inheritance Tax: All inheritance tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Insurance Premium Tax: All insurance premium tax is deposited in the State General Fund.

Other Taxes: Other taxes include brucellosis eradication property tax (deposited in a Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship fund), drug stamp tax (State General Fund), utility replacement property tax (State General Fund), and car rental tax (Road Use Tax Fund). Other taxes also include a suspense account used to hold tax deposits prior to determining the correct tax type for the money and tax revenue transferred by the Department of Revenue to separate accounts to fund tax collection activities (tax gap and Department operations).

Real Estate Transfer Tax: Real estate transfer tax is collected by counties. Counties retain 17.25% and remit the remainder to the State. The distribution of the State portion of real estate transfer tax revenue is currently changing each fiscal year, with the State General Fund portion reduced to 65.0% for FY 2015. The portion not deposited to the State General Fund is deposited to the Housing Trust Fund and the Shelter Assistance Fund.

Sales/Use Tax: General sales/use tax is deposited in the State General Fund, while most vehicle use tax is deposited in the Road Use Tax Fund. Beginning FY 2009, the vehicle use tax is referred to as a fee in the Iowa Code. To allow continuity of data, the revenue from the fee is reflected in this document as tax revenue. Also beginning FY 2009, the School Infrastructure Local Option (SILO) sales tax was converted to a Statewide 1.0% sales/use tax and the revenue from that Statewide tax is transferred out of the State General Fund monthly through a refund appropriation. To allow for continuity of data, the refund transfers are subtracted from State revenue as part of the net sales/use tax calculation. Beginning FY 2014, a portion of State sales/use tax revenue is deposited in a new Sales Tax Increment Fund and used for local flood mitigation projects.

Local Option Taxes: Local option taxes are presented at the bottom of the table and are not included in the numbers above. Prior to FY 2009, local option taxes included the SILO tax, Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) for local government finance, Local Option Income Surcharge for schools, and hotel/motel tax. Beginning in FY 2009, the SILO tax was converted to a 1.0% Statewide tax and the SILO tax was eliminated. To allow for continuity of data, the transfers from the State General Fund as a result of the 1.0% Statewide tax are included in the local option tax amount. Flood mitigation sales tax increment transfers to local governments were added beginning July, 2014.

Report Database: The database for this report is the State accounting system. If transactions are incorrectly coded in the system as tax revenue or tax refunds, the numbers presented here will be impacted.